Gilbert, Lisa

From: Sent: bduyck@tritel.net%inter2 [bduyck@tritel.net]

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AGSEC

To: Subject:

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Hello Sec. Johanns. I know you and or Congress is starting to work on the new Farm Bill this year. I would like to make a suggestion to put in the bill. I am 46 years of age and have sons who are entering there 20's. I think we need a beginner farmer program to help these young people to get started. When I say get started I think they need a land base to develop a frming career. So this in mind I think you need a beginner farm loan for a land purchase. (They can always use parents machinery) I would structure it towards under 30 year olds. They would have to keep it and farm it for at least 10 years. And charge them only 1% interest, this would in most cases make the land payment same as rent and they could afford to own for the future. Also this would keep more land in farmers hands because now more and more land buyers are out of state investors who are absentee to the land. WE NEED young farmers!! and without them the opportunity to buy land and get a base it is hard to get started. I know that this would be a deficit program for the USDA, but we need to do something!!! Let's say land is \$2000 per acre. and you can pay it off over 25 years, your payment would probably be in the 80-90 dollar range. If you borrow from a bank with maybe 6% interest your payments would probably/be in the \$150 or more range!!! Any kid looking at this will probably not farm or buy land. The backbone of this country has always been farmer and land ownership! Help us continue this. Most of our fathers owned all there land by the time they were in their 40 or 50 s My generation is haveing a hard time buying land. And for our kids it will be virtually

thanks. I don't know if you will read this? I would like to know your thoughts on this and who I could forward it onto on the Ag committee's Brian Duyck